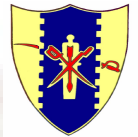




DAGGER BRIGADE

& Schweinfurt Community

Schweinfurt Family Readiness Forum



30 JANUARY 2004





AGENDA



- 1200 -1205: Introductions/Announcements
- 1205 -1215: OIF Mail information
- 1215 -1235: The Family and Soldier Readiness System
- 1235 -1255: Life in Iraq
- 1255 - 1325: The Way Ahead
- 1325 -1345: Closing Remarks



***MAILING INFORMATION FOR
DEPLOYING PERSONNEL AND
FAMILY MEMBERS***



USAREUR Postal Operations



Mailing Information for Families during OIF 2

- Unit addresses will not be finalized until they reach Kuwait
- Do not mail anything until after 15 February 2004
- Check your CMR mailbox on a regular basis, mail not collected will be returned to sender after 30 days
- If returning to the states, instruct CMR to hold mail or forward mail (DD Form 2258)
- Schweinfurt Regional Post Office DSN 353-8206/8207



MPS General Informaiton



MPS is a free service. Certain restrictions apply.

- Package size maximum 70 LBS and 130 linear inches
- Fill out customs form on any box or envelope larger than a standard envelope
- MPS mail cannot be forwarded to German or US addresses
- Do not write geographical location on APO address (Kuwait, Iraq, Kosovo, etc) This can cause mail to be routed through international mail channels resulting in a delay or non-delivery of mail, return to sender



MPS Restrictions for OIF 2



The Following Items are Prohibited:

- Mail must be addressed to a specific person or title
- Bulk religious materials contrary to the Islamic faith; Personal use material is permissible
- Pork products, fruits, animals, plants, and alcoholic beverages
- Currency or precious metals



MPS Restrictions for OIF 2



- Firearms of any type
- Coffee and cigarettes
- Anything that could be considered “obscene” to the Islamic faith
 - Articles, prints, paintings, cards, films, videotapes, horror comics
 - Any matter with nude or semi-nude persons, pornographic material, non-authorized political materials



Free Mail Privileges from OIF Theater



Postcards, letters, and audio/video cassettes containing personal correspondence may be mailed postage free, up to 13 ounces, from OIF theater of operations

- Destinations are limited to APO/FPO and US addresses

SGT Smith

HHC 2BCT, 1ID

OIF, (Base Camp)

APO AE 09392-XXXX

Grandma Smith

25 5th Street

Clearwater, Florida 33755

Hand Write "FREE"

FREE



Sample MPS Addressed Mail



Hand Write "MPS"

MPS

MRS Smith
HHC 2nd BCT
CMR 464 Box 1234
APO AE 09226

SGT Smith
HHC 2nd BCT, 1ID
OIF, (Base Camp)
APO AE 09392-XXXX



QUESTIONS





The Family and Soldier Readiness System

Keeping things balanced



Objectives



- **Understand the importance of Family and Soldier Readiness and the FRG for the unit, soldiers, and families.**



Learn about the essential ingredients and key tasks of the FSRS and the FRG.

- **Understand the Family
Readiness Group's role in unit
readiness.**



Premises



- **Operational tempo in training and deployments will remain high.**
- **Soldier and Family readiness are an integral part of mission success.**
- **Family Readiness is a Combat / Mission Multiplier.**



Goal



Increase the state of preparedness of the Army Family through proactive education and support programs that promote self reliance and enhance family well being.

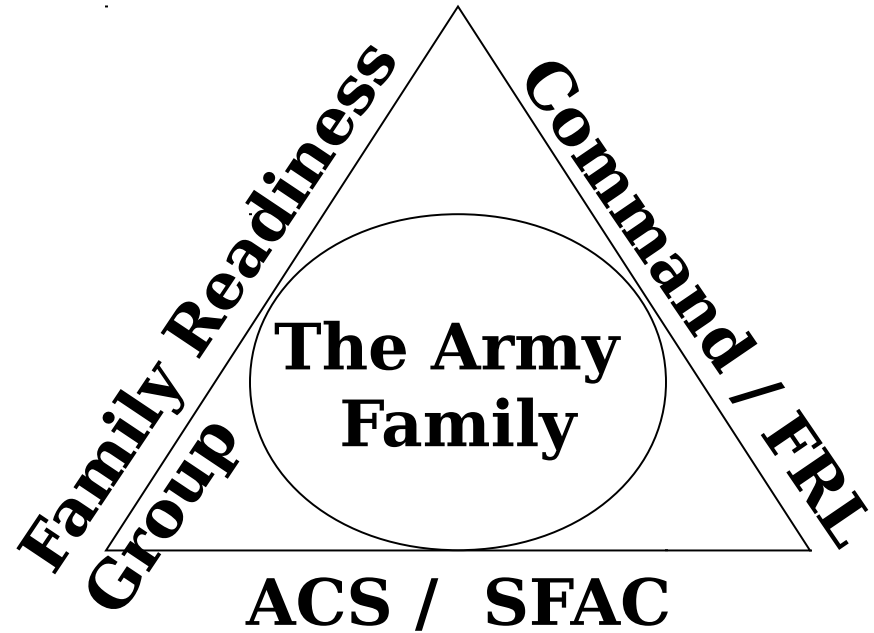


The Family and Soldier Readiness System (FSRS)



Key Components

- **Command/Rear Detachment /Family Readiness Liaison**
- **Family Readiness Group**
- **Army Community Service / Soldier and Family Assistance Center**





Family Readiness Group



An organization of family members, volunteers, and soldiers/civilian employees belonging to a unit that, together, provide an avenue of mutual support and assistance and a network of communication among the family members, the chain of command and community



FRG Structure



Battalion Level

Advisory and Support Functions

Company Level

Administrative Functions



FRG Structure



- **Battalion Level**
 - **FRG Steering Committee**
 - **Facilitates the establishment of unit wide standards, processes and procedures via Committee consensus.**
 - **Provide guidance, direction, and command support to subordinate FRG.**
 - **BN CDR & FRG Leader, Advisors, Company FRG Leaders, Committee Chairpersons**
 - **Minimum meets quarterly.**



FRG Structure



Company Level

- **FRG Leader /Co-Leaders**
- **Contact Persons**
- **FRG Committees**
 - **Welcome**
 - **Fundraising**
 - **Special Events**
 - **Childcare**
 - **Newsletter**
 - **Others as deemed appropriate**



Family & Soldier Readiness and FRG



What it is / isn't?

Who's responsible for it?



FRGs Are Not



- **The ladies' coffee group**
- **Just for deployment**
- **Only for people with problems**
- **A long-term baby sitting service**
- **Part of casualty notification**
- **Fundraising entity for unit**



The FRG's Role



- **Welcome and orient new families & soldiers.**
- **Communicate command caring.**
- **Help soldiers concentrate on mission.**
- **Encourage use of community resources.**
- **Provide reliable information.**
- **Support and assist one another.**



FRG - Who Leads It?



- **Commander establishes and supports the FRG but is NOT the leader.**
- **Leaders may: volunteer be appointed be elected**
- **Leaders should receive appointment letters and training.**



Family Readiness Group Leader



- **Supports Commander's family readiness goals**
- **Provides leadership**
- **Recruits volunteers**
- **Delegates FRG responsibilities**
- **Identifies needs**
- **Acts as unit spokesperson**



Essential Ingredients



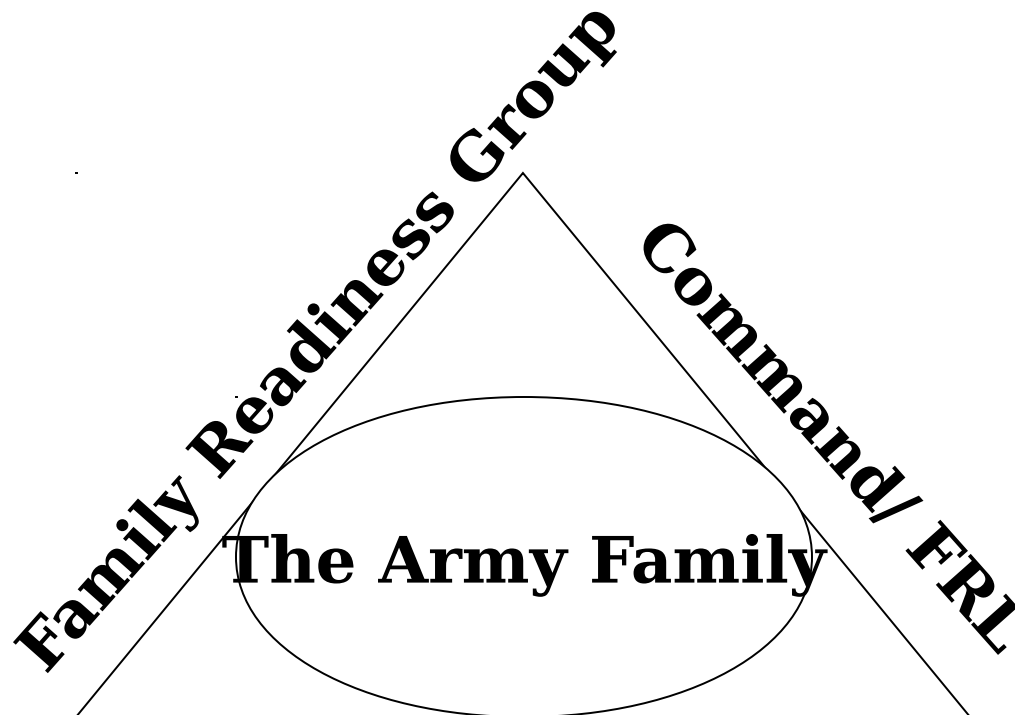
- **Caring, well trained and organized leaders**
- **Excellent Communications**
- **Fun FRG Events**
- **Command Support**



The Family and Soldier Readiness System



(FSRS)



**ACS / Family
Assistance Center
(FAC)**



Soldier and Family Assistance Center (SFAC)



The SFAC is an expanded ACS. The SFAC provides assistance, guidance, information, and referral services to units, soldiers, and family members during deployments, emergencies, mobilization, and major disaster. The SFAC is activated by the



Soldier and Family Assistance Center (SFAC)



ACS

ARC

**Chaplain
s**

Finance

Housing

**ID
Cards**

**TRICAR
E**

Services
coordinated

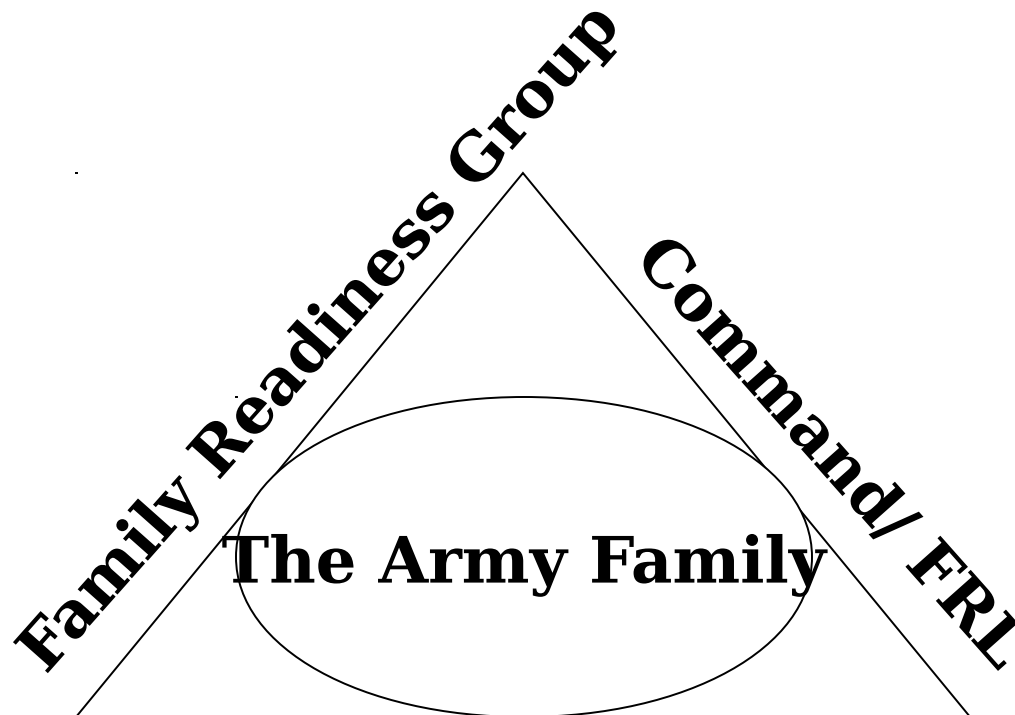
SFAC

Services
coordinated

**The Army
Family**



The Family and Soldier Readiness System (FSRS)



**ACS / Soldier and
Family Assistance
Center (SFAC)**



Where to get help?

- **ABCs of the FRG**
- **Basic structure and functions of a Family Readiness Group.**
2 February 6 April
2 March 4 May
- **6 p.m. - 8 p.m. at the ACS Classroom, located in the Education Center.**
- **Please call ACS to sign up at 354-6751 or civilian 09721-966751.**



Where to get help?

- **The FRG Roundtable helps FRG leaders share success stories, questions and concerns.**
- FRG Roundtable dates:
17 February 17 May
15 March 21 June
19 April
- We meet in the Yellow Ribbon Room from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
- Dinner will be served!
- Please RSVP by calling ACS at 354-6751 or civilian 09721-966751.



Where to get help?

- **Three letters that make an FRG leader's job easier . . . POC**

20 February: 10 a.m. - noon

11 March: 10 a.m. - noon

1 April: 1p.m. - 3 p.m.

3 May: noon - 2 p.m.

- **We will meet in the ACS Classroom, located in the Education Center. Please call ACS to sign up at 354-6751 or civilian 09721-966751.**

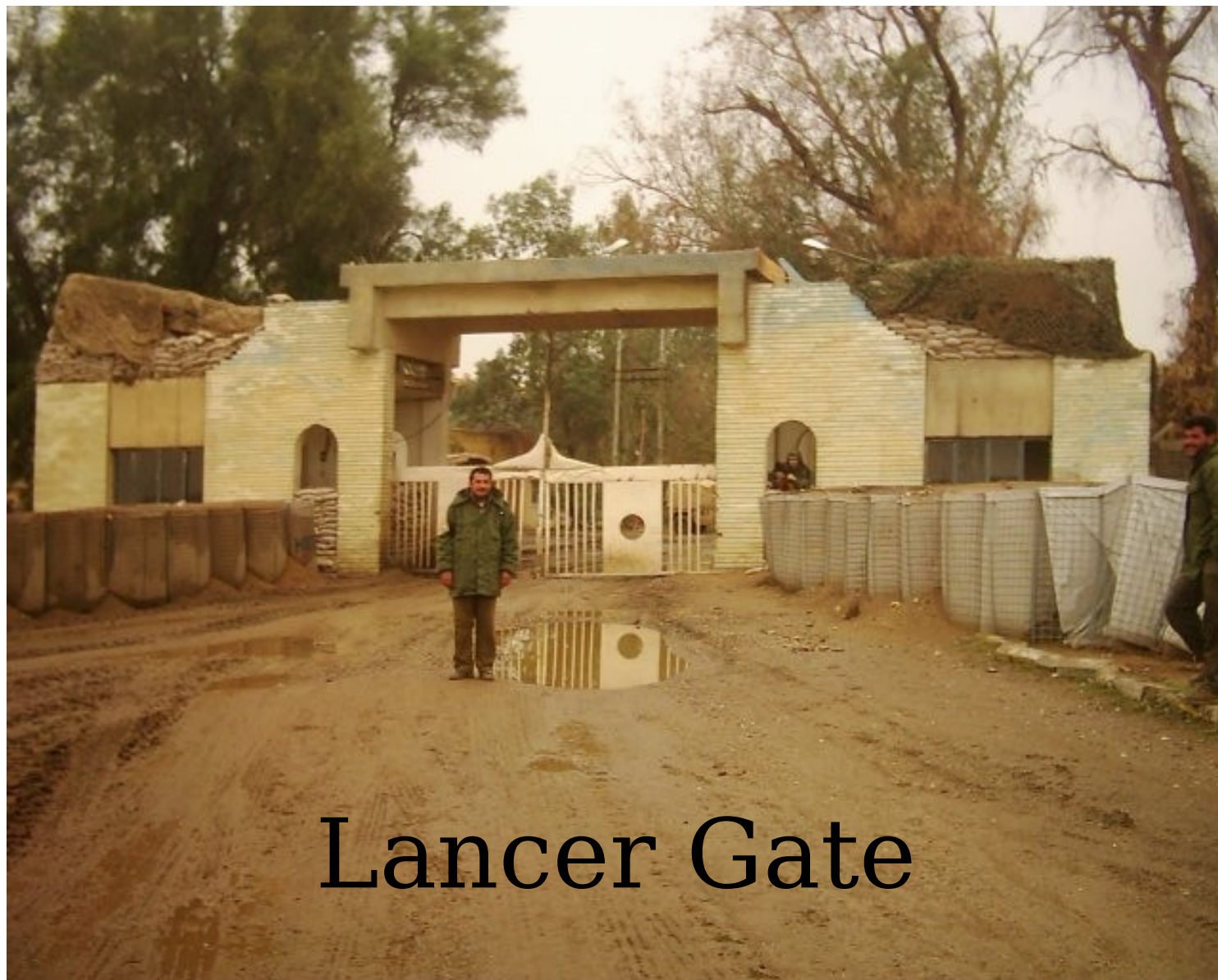


QUESTIONS





Life In Iraq



Lancer Gate



Life In Iraq



Tactical Operations Center





Life In Iraq





Life In Iraq



Phone Bank





Life In Iraq



Washing Machines and Dryers





Life In Iraq



MWR North (The Pagoda)





Life In Iraq



DFAC





Life In Iraq



CHU's





Life In Iraq



HHC Pad





Life In Iraq



Maintenance Bay





Life In Iraq



Gym





Life In Iraq



Gym Equipment



DFAC and MWR Building





DFAC Dining Area



Living Area with Bunkers in Center





Living Container Areas:
36 Living Containers,
1 Latrine Container,
1 Shower Container per
Bay (5 EA)





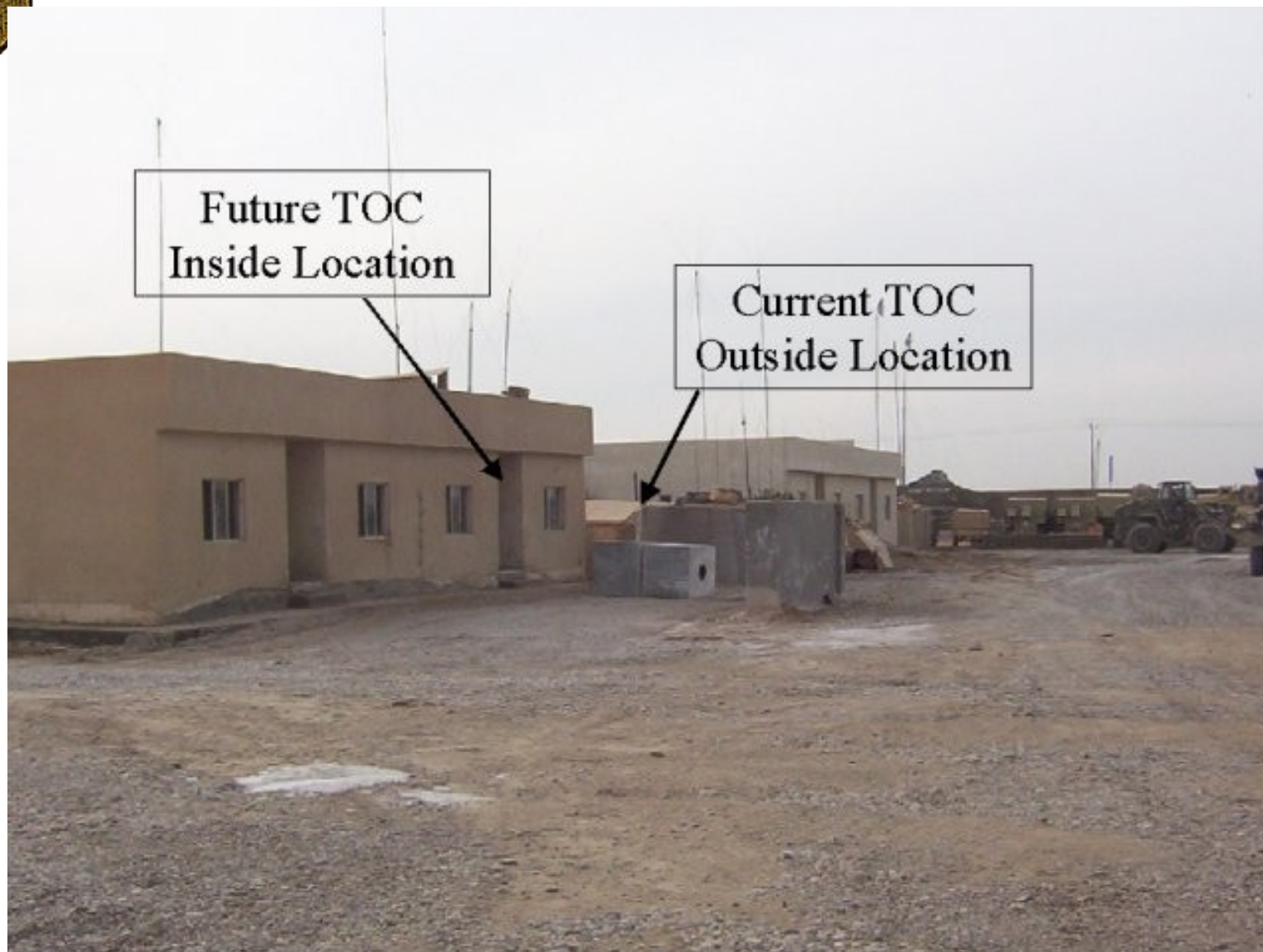
Motor Pool





Wood Shower and Chemical Latrines





Meeting Room

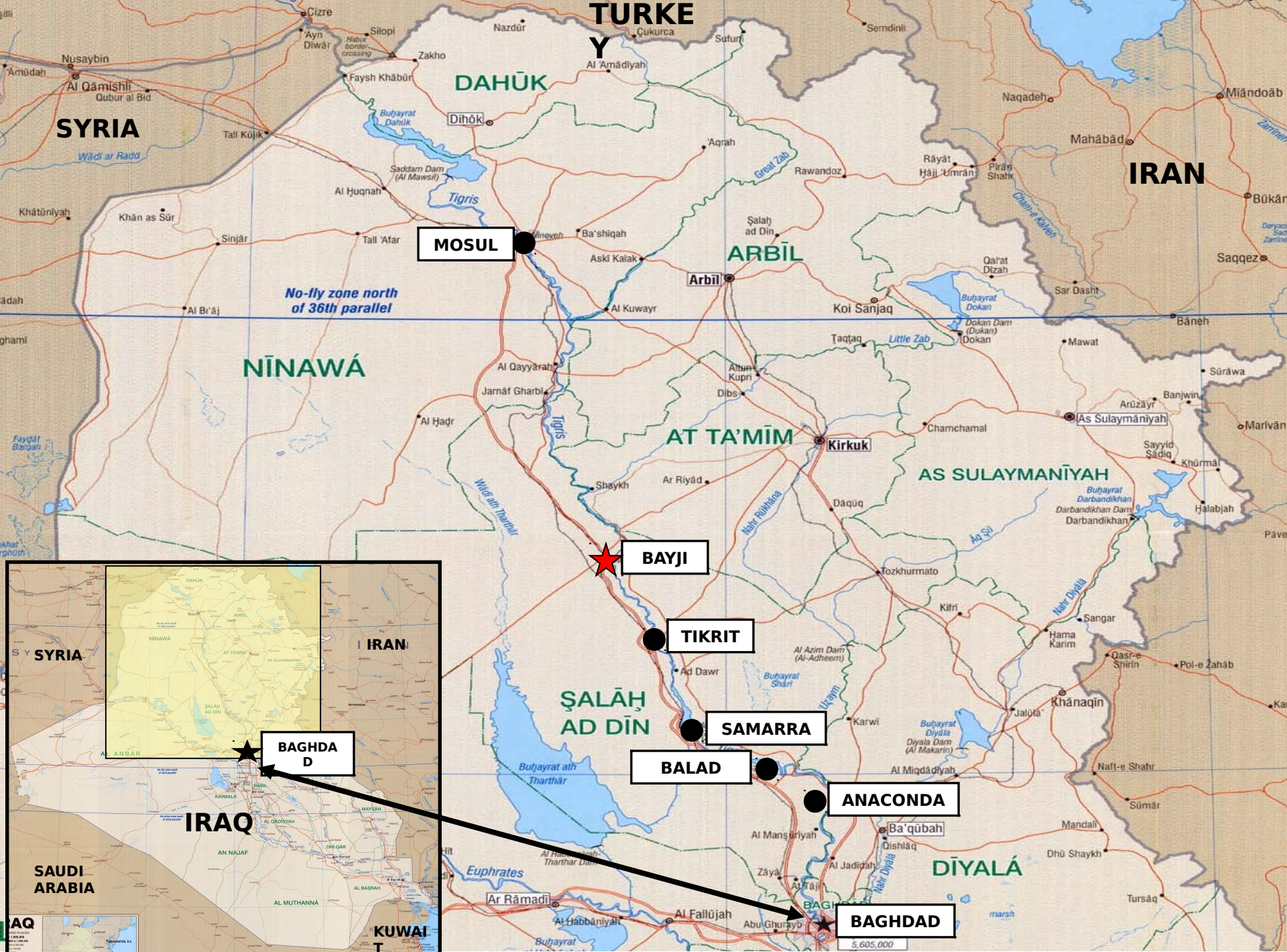
Command Group BOQ





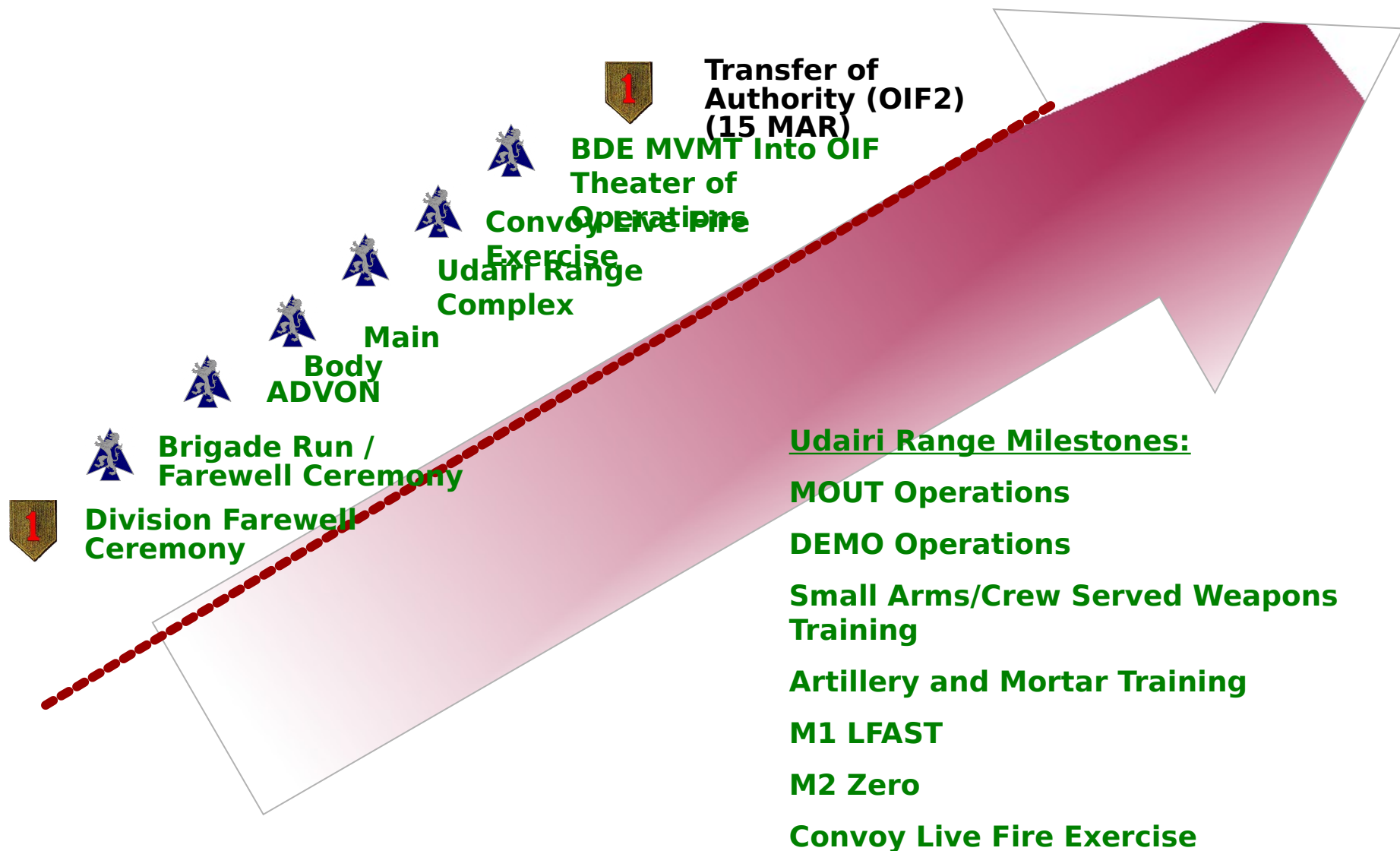
Life In Iraq







The Way Ahead





Next Meeting



Schweinfurt Family
Readiness Forum
12 March 2004
1200-1330 Hours
Conn Club